

Message Text

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TAGS: EGEN, UN, ECOSOC

SUBJECT: 64TH ECOSOC: ITEM 7 REVISION OF WORLD PLAN OF
ACTION FOR THE APPLICATION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TO
DEVELOPMENT

REF: USUN 1450

1. AT THE FOURTH SESSION OF CSTD (GENEVA, FEBRUARY 1978)
US AND OTHER COUNTRIES SUPPORTED UP DATING WORLD PLAN OF
ACTION BECAUSE OF ITS PRESUMED USEFULNESS TO LDC DECISION
MAKERS WHO NEED GUIDANCE IN THEIR CHOICE OF S AND T FOR
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DEVELOPMENT. THE DOCUMENT WAS ALSO REPORTED RELEVANT TO
THE PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES OF THE UN CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (UNCSTD). MOREOVER THE
DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY INDICATED
THAT THE UP DATING PROCESS WAS ALREADY IN AN ADVANCED STAGE
OF COMPLETION.

2. SINCE IT NOW APPEARS THAT THE ONLY WORK ACTUALLY DONE ON WORLD PLAN OF ACTION HAS BEEN PAPERS ON THE FIVE TOPICS AND SINCE MANY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHICH WOULD MOST BENEFIT FROM THIS EXERCISE ARE NOW QUESTIONING ITS RELEVANCE DEPT FEELS THAT USEFULNESS OF UPDATING NOW VERY QUESTION-ABLE.

3. USDEL MAY THEREFORE JOIN CONSENSUS TO SUSPEND AT THIS TIME REVISION OF WORLD PLAN AND TO REQUEST ACAST TO DEVOTE ITS WORK TO OTHER SUBJECTS MORE CLOSELY RELATED TO UNCSTD.

4. DEPT AGREES WITH MISSION'S VIEW, SUPPORTED BY US ACAST MEMBER RODNEY NICHOLS, THAT PAPERS ON FIVE TOPICS (FOOD; POPULATION; ENERGY; ENVIRONMENT; OCEAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY) COULD STAND ON THEIR OWN WITHOUT BECOMING INTEGRAL PARTS OF THE WORLD PLAN. AS SEPARATE ENTITIES THE PAPERS MAY CONTRIBUTE TO THE PRACTICAL OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE BY PROVIDING ANALYSES OF GLOBAL PROBLEMS AND BY PROPOSING POSSIBLE SOLUTION THROUGH APPLICATION OF S AND T.

5. WE CAN EXPECT THAT THE ONGOING REVIEW BY ACAST MEMBERS AS WELL AS THE ACC SUBCOMMITTEE ON S AND T WILL IMPROVE QUALITY OF FIVE PAPERS WHICH ALREADY COMPLETED IN DRAFT FORM. USDEL MAY SUPPORT AS APPROPRIATE COMPLETION OF FIVE TOPIC PAPERS, STRESSING THEIR GENERAL VALUE TO DEVELOPING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COUNTRIES AS WELL AS THEIR RELEVANCE TO THE OBJECTIVES OF UNCSTD.

CHRISTOPHER

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